

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 026033

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DRAFTED BY PA/HO:WMFRANKLIN:BJM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: XGDS(3)

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TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DECLASSIFICATION OF FOREIGN CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS

IN AUGUST 1974 MR. E. A. THOMPSON OF U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVES VISITED LONDON TO DISCUSS DECLASSIFICATION PROBLEMS WITH BRITISH OFFICIALS. FROM C. J. CHILD OF THE HISTORICAL SECTION, CABINET OFFICE, AND B. CHEESEMAM OF THE LIBRARY, FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, HE LEARNED THAT BRITISH HAVE TAKEN POSITION THEIR 30-YEAR RULE APPLIES EVEN TO FOREIGN CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS IN BRITISH FILES. SINCE USG HAS TRADITIONALLY APPLIED A 50-YEAR RULE TO FOREIGN DOCUMENTS IN ITS FILES, DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO KNOW (1) WHAT TYPES OF FOREIGN CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN RELEASED IN LONDON IN ACCORDANCE WITH NEW BRITISH RULE; (2) WHAT TYPES OF FOREIGN CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS ARE CONSIDERED EXEMPT FROM 30-YEAR RULE; AND (3) WHETHER ANY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS HAVE COMPLAINED ABOUT UK RELEASES OF THEIR DOCUMENTS.

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IN CONNECTION WITH QUESTION (2), WE BELIEVE UK WILL MAKE

EXCEPTION TO THEIR 30-YEAR RULE AS TO DOCUMENTS CLASSIFIED
PURSUANT TO THE FOLLOWING AGREEMENTS:

BEGIN SECRET (1) AGREEMENT RELATING TO SECURITY OF
MILITARY INFORMATION. APPROVED AUGUST 1948. SECRET.

(2) CHARTER OF THE U.S.-U.K. MILITARY INFORMATION BOARD,
WITH ANNEXES. APPROVED BY EXCHANGE OF LETTERS OF
OCTOBER 25 AND NOVEMBER 2, 1949, BETWEEN THE U.S. SECRE-
TARY OF DEFENSE AND THE U.K. MINISTER OF DEFENSE. SECRET.

(3) AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE EXCHANGE OF CLASSIFIED
MILITARY INFORMATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE

UNITED KINGDOM AND ITS DISCLOSURE TO THIRD NATIONS
(BURNS/TEMPLER AGREEMENT.) APPROVED AT MEETINGS HELD
IN WASHINGTON BETWEEN JANUARY 19 AND JANUARY 27, 1950.
SECRET.

(4) AGREEMENT FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES, THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND CANADA. ADOPTED
NOVEMBER 15, 1950, BY THE MILITARY INFORMATION BOARD.
SECRET. END SECRET.) (BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL:

(5) AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE SAFEGUARDING OF CLASSI-
FIED INFORMATION, WITH ANNEX OF GENERAL SECURITY
PROCEDURES. EXCHANGE OF NOTES AND ENTRY INTO FORCE ON
APRIL 14, 1961. CONFIDENTIAL.

(6) INDUSTRIAL SECURITY PROCEDURES AGREEMENT, WITH
ARMED FORCES INDUSTRIAL SECURITY REGULATIONS ATTACHED.
CONFIDENTIAL (END CONFIDENTIAL.)

FYI: DEPARTMENT IS CONTEMPLATING A REVIEW OF ITS
50-YEAR RULE AS TO FOREIGN CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DOCUMENTS, DECLASSIFICATION, ARCHIVES, SECURITY CONTROLS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: WMFRANKLIN:BJM
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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